



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **FORMER MEXICAN POLICE OFFICER, MURDER SUSPECT DEPORTED BY ICE OFFICERS**

*Man is wanted for his alleged involvement in a murder in Mexico*

LAREDO, Texas — A former Mexican Police Officer wanted for murder in Mexico was deported here today by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) officers and turned over to the Federal Attorney General of Mexico.

Juan Carlos Almanza-Castillo, 42, is wanted by Mexican authorities for allegedly gunning down one of his relatives while working as a State Police Officer for the State of Coahuila, Mexico.

Almanza-Castillo illegally entered the United States near Laredo, Texas, in February 2000. He then traveled to Bell County, north of Austin, where he began working for a rancher. It was there that Almanza-Castillo allegedly committed another crime, sexual assault on a minor in 2001. The Bell County Sheriff's Office was investigating the incident when they discovered he had an outstanding arrest warrant for homicide.

Mexico's Office of the Federal Attorney General had sent out a request asking the Department of Homeland Security to repatriate Almanza-Castillo back to Mexico, if encountered.

ICE agents arrested Almanza-Castillo at his home in Bell County without incident. He was detained in San Antonio, Texas, pending his removal.

"International criminals seeking to hide in our country to avoid facing justice abroad should be forewarned that the Department of Homeland Security routinely works with many local, state, federal and international law enforcement agencies to help protect our country," said Alonzo Pena, special agent-in-charge for the ICE San Antonio office. "Vigilance and teamwork are key in our day-to-day enforcement activity."

“The primary mission in Detention and Removal Operations is to locate, detain and remove aliens who don’t belong in this country, like Almanza-Castillo,” said Marc J. Moore, field office director for the ICE Detention and Removal Operations office in San Antonio. “Deporting fugitives of foreign countries remains a top priority in order to keep the American public safe.”

ICE worked with representatives from the Mexican Attorney General’s office to finalize arrangements for Almanza-Castillo’s repatriation.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of four integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*